WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method of modifying low frequency components of a digital audio signal having left and right channel signals, the method comprising the steps of: a) filtering the left and right channels signals using respective left and right high-pass filters to form left and right high-pass filtered signals; b) filtering the left and right channel signals using respective left and right band-pass filters to form left and right low frequency signals; c) modifying the amplitude of the left and right low frequency signals to give modified left and right low frequency signals whereby signals with amplitude a where $0 < a < a1$ are amplified by a first constant value C1, signals with amplitude $a1 \leq a < a2$ are amplified proportional to $1/a$, signals with amplitude $a = 2a$ are unchanged, signals with amplitude $a2 < a < a3$ are attenuated proportional to $1/a$, and signals with amplitude $a = a3$ are attenuated by a second constant value C2; and d) combining the modified band-pass filtered left and right signals with the respective left and right high-pass filtered signals to form respective modified left and right channel audio signals.

2.   A method according to claim 1 wherein in step c), the amplitude a of the signal is taken to be the amplitude of the left or right low frequency signal which has the largest absolute value.

3.   A method according to claim 2 wherein the first constant value C1 is 12.5.

4.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the second constant value C2 is 0.5.

5.   A method according to claim 1 wherein $a1 = 0.04$.

6.   A method according to claim 1 wherein $a2 = 0.5$.

7.   A method according to claim 1 wherein $a3 = 1$.

8.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the digital audio signal is an MP3 encoded signal.

9.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the digital audio signal is in WAV format.

10.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the parameters of the band-pass filters are user selectable.

11.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the parameters of the high-pass filters are user selectable.

12.   A method claimed in claim 1 using a limiter having a transfer function substantially as shown in Figure 1d.

13.   A digital signal produced using the method claimed in claim 1.